

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 2, 2004

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GG

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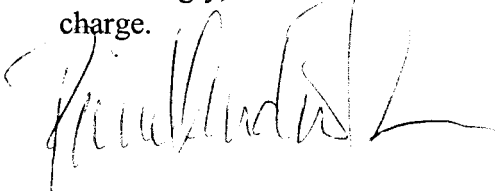
FROM: G/General Counsel

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the July 4th Dinner at the U.S. Botanic Garden

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young, the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the U.S. House of Representatives, is hosting a reception and dinner at the U.S. Botanic Garden on July 4, 2004. I have determined that it is in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The event will be widely attended by members of Congress, congressional staff members, other federal agency officials, private individuals, and representatives of those public organizations supporting the annual July 4th concert on the grounds of the Capitol. Approximately 80 people are expected to attend the event. Dinner and refreshments will be served at the event, provided by Lockheed Martin Corporation, and the cost is approximately \$66 per person. I find that the event meets the requirements of a widely attended gathering as defined in 5 CFR 635.204(g). I therefore conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs the concerns that acceptance of the gift (dinner and refreshments) may appear to improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees and their invited spouses or guests may attend this event without charge.



Paul G. Pastorek